

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The ~~An information storage~~ medium according to claim 18 [[4]], wherein the information storage medium is a one-sided, multi-recording layer type disc-shaped medium having a spiral track with a track pitch Pt,

data recording is optically done on the track with the track pitch Pt via an objective lens having a numerical aperture NA and via an intermediate layer having a refractive index n and thickness t, and

a length δ of the non-data portion gap present between the predetermined recording units satisfies:

$$\delta \leq \pi (D + Pt)D/Pt$$

for $D = 2t \tan\{\sin^{-1}(NA/n)\}$.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The ~~An information recording~~ method according claim 19 [[5]], wherein an information storage medium is a one-sided, multi-recording layer type disc-shaped medium having a spiral track with a track pitch Pt,

data recording is optically done on the tracks with the track pitch Pt via an objective lens having a numerical aperture NA and via an intermediate layer having a refractive index n and thickness t, and

a length δ of the non-data portion gap present between the predetermined recording units satisfies:

$$\delta \leq \pi (D + Pt)D/Pt$$

for $D = 2t \tan\{\sin^{-1}(NA/n)\}$.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): ~~The An information recording/reproduction~~ apparatus according to claim 20 ~~[[6]]~~, wherein an information storage medium is a one-sided, multi-recording layer type disc-shaped medium having a spiral track with a track pitch Pt,

data recording is optically done on the tracks with the track pitch Pt via an objective lens having a numerical aperture NA and via an intermediate layer having a refractive index n and thickness t, and

a length δ of the non-data portion gap present between the predetermined recording units satisfies:

$$\delta \leq \pi (D + Pt)D/Pt$$

for $D = 2t \tan \{\sin^{-1}(NA/n)\}$.

Claims 10-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): ~~The An information storage~~ medium according to claim 15 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein said medium is a recordable information medium on which data recording is continuously done to form a predetermined non-data portion gap between neighboring predetermined recording units along a track,

wherein a mark which indicates a recording start position for the continuous data recording for respective predetermined recording units is pre-recorded by a wobble modulation of the track.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): ~~The An information recording method wherein an information storage medium cited in~~ according to claim 16 ~~12 is used, wherein and~~ after a mark position indicating a recording start position for continuous data recording is detected, continuous recording is started.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): ~~The An information recording apparatus wherein an information storage medium cited in~~ according to claim 17 ~~12 is used, wherein and~~ after a mark position indicating a recording start position for continuous data recording is detected, continuous recording is started.

Claim 15 (New): An information storage medium comprising:
at least one pair of neighboring tracks,
wherein upon continuously executing data recording for respective recording units along tracks on a disc-shaped information storage medium having a center of rotation, recording is done to form a non-data portion between the recording units along the tracks, and
an angular position of the non-data portion formed on one of said at least one pair of neighboring tracks of the tracks with respect the center of rotation is different from an angular position of the non-data portion formed on the other of the neighboring tracks with respect to the center of rotation.

Claim 16 (New): A method of recording information on an information storage medium wherein upon continuously executing data recording for respective recording units along tracks on a disc-shape information storage medium having a center of rotation, recording is done to form a non-data portion between the recording units along the tracks, and an angular position of the non-data portion formed on one of at least one pair of neighboring tracks of the tracks with respect to the center of rotation is different from an angular position of the non-data portion formed on the other of the neighboring tracks with respect to the center of rotation, said method comprising:

generating data for an ECC block;
forming the recording units for the ECC block on the track; and

forming the non-data portion after the ECC block and before a next ECC block.

Claim 17 (New): An apparatus for reproducing information from an information storage medium wherein upon continuously executing data recording for respective recording units along tracks on a disc-shaped information storage medium having a center of rotation, recording is done to form a non-data portion between the recording units along the tracks, and an angular position of the non-data portion formed on one of at least one pair of neighboring tracks of the tracks with respect to the center of rotation is different from an angular position of the non-data portion formed on the other of the neighboring tracks with respect to the center of rotation, said apparatus comprising:

a motor for rotating the information storage medium; and

a device configured to reproduce the information of the recording units from the medium rotated by said motor.

Claim 18 (New): An information storage medium comprising:

a wobbled groove along a track configured to continuously undergo data recording for respective recording units along the track while being rotated,

wherein upon continuously executing data recording for respective recording units along the track on said information storage medium, recording can be done to form a non-data portion between the recording units along the track,

said medium is configured to enable the continuous data recording to form a non-data portion δ between the recording units being adjacent along the track, and

said non-data portion δ is configured to satisfy:

$$\delta \geq \pi f$$

where τ is a wobble period of the wobbled groove and f is an allowable rotation nonuniformity of the rotation.

Claim 19 (New): A method of recording information on an information storage medium wherein upon continuously executing data recording for respective recording units along a track on said information storage medium, recording can be done to form a non-data portion between the recording units along the track, said medium has a wobbled groove along a track and continuously undergoes data recording for respective recording units along the track while being rotated, said medium is configured to enable the continuous data recording to form a non-data portion δ between the recording units being adjacent along the track, and said non-data portion δ is configured to satisfy:

$$\delta \geq \tau f$$

where τ is a wobble period of the wobbled groove and f is an allowable rotation nonuniformity of the rotation, said method comprising:

generating data for an ECC block;

forming the recording units for the ECC block on the track; and

forming the non-data portion after the ECC block and before a next ECC block.

Claim 20 (New): An apparatus for reproducing information from an information storage medium wherein upon continuously executing data recording for respective recording units along a track on said information storage medium, recording can be done to form a non-data portion between the recording units along the track, said medium has a wobbled groove along a track and continuously undergoes data recording for respective recording units along the track while being rotated, said medium is configured to enable the continuous data

Application No. 10/058,084

Reply to Office Action of July 13, 2004

recording to form a non-data portion δ between the recording units being adjacent along the track, and said non-data portion δ is configured to satisfy:

$$\delta \geq \tau f$$

where τ is a wobble period of the wobbled groove and f is an allowable rotation nonuniformity of the rotation, said apparatus comprising:

a motor for rotating the information storage medium, and

a device configured to reproduce the information of the recording units from the medium rotated by said motor.